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Claim 17 – (Original) The method in accordance with claim 12 wherein Vitamin E is fed to the pet in at least about 100 ppm as measured by the diet.

Claim 18 – (Original) The method in accordance with claim 17 wherein an antioxidant selected from the group consisting of Vitamin C, l-carnitine, alpha-lipoic acid or mixture thereof is fed to the pet.

Claim 19 – (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein an antioxidant selected from the group consisting of Vitamin C, l-carnitine, alpha-lipoic acid or mixtures thereof is fed to the pet.

Claim 20 – (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein at least about 50 ppm of Vitamin C are in the diet.

Claim 21 – (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein at least about 25 ppm of alpha-lipoic acid are in the diet.

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Claim 22 – (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein at least about 50 ppm of l-carnitine are present in the diet.

Claim 23 – 25 (Canceled)

Claim 26 – (Original) A method for increasing the mental capacity of an adult companion pet, which comprises feeding the pet an amount of an antioxidant or mixture thereof sufficient to increase the mental capacity of said pet.

Claim 27 - (Canceled)

Claim 28 – (Original) A method for improving a companion pet's ability in its aged years to resist oxidative damage which comprises feeding said pet in its adult years a diet meeting nutritional requirement, said diet having at least about 25 ppm lipoic acid and said diet being fed for at least one month.

Claim 29 – (Original) A method for improving a companion pet's ability in its aged year to resist oxidative damage which comprises feeding said pet in its aged year a diet meeting nutritional requirement, said diet having at least about 25 ppm lipoic acid and said diet being fed for at least one month.

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Claim 30 – (New) A method for inhibiting the loss of learning ability of an aged companion pet which comprises feeding the pet in its adult years an antioxidant or mixture of antioxidants at levels sufficient to accomplish the said inhibiting, the said antioxidant selected from the group consisting of Vitamin E, Vitamin C, alpha lipoic acid, l-carnitine and mixtures thereof.

Claim 31 – (New) A method for increasing the learning ability of an adult companion pet which comprises feeding the pet an antioxidant or mixture of antioxidants at levels sufficient to accomplish said increasing, the said antioxidant selected from the group consisting of Vitamin E, Vitamin C, alpha lipoic acid, l-carnitine and mixtures thereof.

Respectfully submitted,

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